

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the claims of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 are pending in this case.

In the present Office Action, the Examiner objected to Claims 5-6, 10, 12, 15-16 and 20 due to various informalities.

The Examiner did indicate that all of the claims are allowable.

With respect to the objection of Claims 5-6 and 15-16, the Examiner alleges that the claimed recitation "the step of identifying failing gates" lacks antecedent basis. In response, applicants amend claims 5 and 15 in the manner as suggested by the Examiner, to correct this informality.

With respect to the objection of Claim 12, the Examiner alleges that the claimed recitation "the step of compiling includes" lacks antecedent basis. In response, applicants amend Claim 12 to properly set forth the recitation defining every net for which proper antecedent basis is provided for in Claim 11, rather than the objected to "compiling" step.

With respect to the objection of Claims 10 and 20, applicants amend claims 10 and 20 in the manner as suggested by the Examiner, to correct an informality involving correct spelling of the term "where in".

In view of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to remove the objections to each of the objected to claims 5-6, 10, 12, 15-16 and 20 due to various informalities.

As the Examiner indicated that Claims 1-20 presented allowable subject matter, this application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is

respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference might expedite prosecution of this case, it is respectfully requested that he call applicants' attorney at (516) 742-4343.

Respectfully submitted,



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